

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A sealing band for a projectile, the band comprising:

a front sub-band comprising at least two axially longitudinal sections, the sub-band having at least one conical section, which in an axial cross-section includes a wedge-shaped profile, for tightly fitting with an adjacent bottom surface of an annular groove of such a projectile, said groove having a matching complementary wedge-shaped profile of an annular groove of such projectile, and

a cylindrical skirt removably attached to and fully covering the circumferential exterior surface of the sub-band,

wherein the sub-band is not rotatable with respect to such projectile around a longitudinal axis of such projectile.

2. (Previously Presented) A sealing band according to claim 1, wherein the skirt has on its internal surface means for fastening to the sub-band.

3. (Withdrawn) Sealing band according to claim 2, characterised in that the skirt has an internal circular collar for the sub-band.

4. (Previously Presented) A sealing band according to claim 1, further comprising a layer of sealing material at the rear of the sub-band relative to a front end of such projectile.

5. (Previously Presented) A sealing band according to claim 1, wherein the skirt has a diameter, and a length between 50% and 80% of its diameter.

6. (Currently Amended) A sealing band according to claim 1, wherein each sub-band section comprises at least one indentation for connecting to a corresponding indentation of a neighbouring section for forming a sealing deflecting plate for propellant gases, such that at least part of each indentation passes through a single line parallel to a central axis of the sealing band.

7. (Previously Presented) A sealing band according to claim 6, further comprising a flexible sealing material between said sub-band sections and at a rear section of the sub-band.

8. (Previously Presented) A sealing band according to claim 1, wherein a rear section of the skirt of the band has a diameter greater than a calibre of a barrel for firing such projectile.

9. (Previously Presented) A sealing band according to claim 1, wherein a front section has a diameter smaller than a calibre of a barrel for firing such projectile.

10. (Previously Presented) A projectile comprising a sub-calibre core held by a full-calibre sabot comprising at least two segments, said projectile having a band according to claim 9 wherein the sabot further comprises a pusher plate located axially forward of a transversal plane passing through the center of gravity of the projectile, the pusher plate comprising at least one circumferential groove for receiving the sub-band.

11. (Withdrawn) Arrow projectile according to claim 10 and integrating a sealing band characterised in that it comprises a front sub-band containing at least two sectors, the sub-band having at least a conical profile in a tight fit with the matching profile of a groove of the projectile, the cone tip being placed towards a rear section of the projectile, with the sub-band attached to the projectile by a cylindrical skirt wherein each sub-band sector has at the level of each of its lateral edges at least one indentation intended to cooperate with a corresponding indentation of a neighboring sector so as to form a sealing deflecting plate for the propellant gasses, and the deflecting plates separating the various sub-band sectors are alternatively integrated with the plan lines separating the segments of the sabot.

12 . (Withdrawn) Arrow projectile according to claim 10, characterised in that each segment from the sabot has a rear calibre guiding support.

13. (Withdrawn) Arrow projectile according to claim 10, characterised in that each segment of the sabot has a reinforcing rib extending longitudinally to the back of the pusher plate.

14. (Withdrawn) Arrow projectile according to claim 13, characterised in that the rib is in contact with the skirt of the band.

15. (Withdrawn) Arrow projectile according to claim 14, characterised in that the skirt of the band is provided with longitudinal internal grooves in which the ribs are fitted in.

16. (Previously Presented) Ammunition comprising a casing enclosing a propellant charge and a projectile according to claim 10, wherein the cylindrical skirt is attached to a fastening ring fixed at the casing.

17. (Withdrawn) Ammunition according to claim 16, characterised in that part of the propellant charge is placed in the skirt of the band.

18. (Previously Presented) The sealing band according to claim 1, wherein the at least two sections of the sub-band are arc-shaped.

19. (Previously Presented) The sealing band according to claim 6, wherein the sub-band sections are arc-shaped and the deflecting plate is circular.